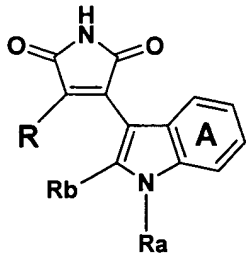
Listing of Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) A compound of formula I

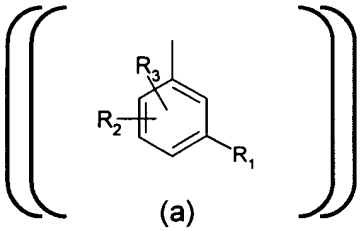


I

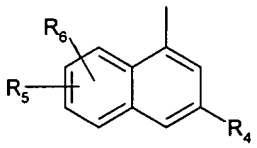
wherein

R_a is H; C_{1-4}alkyl; or C_{1-4}alkyl substituted by OH, NH_2, NHC_{1-4}alkyl or $N(C_{1-4}$ alkyl$)_2$; R_b is H; or C_{1-4}alkyl;

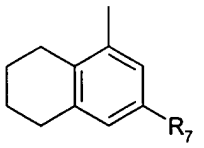
R is a radical of formula ~~(a)~~ [[,]] (b) [[,]] <u>or</u> (c), ~~(e) or (f)~~



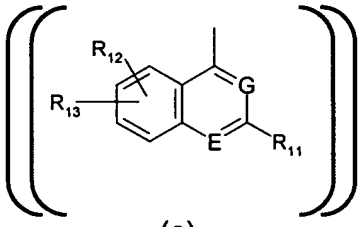
(a)



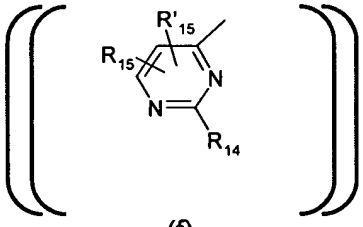
(b)



(c)



(e)



(f)

wherein

each of ~~R_4~~, $R_{4[[,]]}$ and $R_{7[[,]]}$ ~~R_{11} and R_{14}~~ is OH; SH; ~~a heterocyclic residue~~; $NR_{16}R_{17}$ wherein each of R_{16} and R_{17}, independently, is H or C_{1-4}alkyl ~~or R_{16} and R_{17} form together with the nitrogen atom to which they are bound a heterocyclic residue;~~ or a radical of formula □

-X-R_c-Y (□)

wherein X is a direct bond, O, S or NR_{18} wherein R_{18} is H or C_{1-4}alkyl,
R_c is C_{1-4}alkylene or C_{1-4}alkylene wherein one CH_2 is replaced by CR_xR_y wherein one of R_x and R_y is H and the other is CH_3, each of R_x and R_y is CH_3 or R_x and R_y form together -CH_2-CH_2-, and

Y is bound to the terminal carbon atom and is selected from $OH_{[[,]]}$ ~~a heterocyclic residue~~ and -$NR_{19}R_{20}$ wherein each of R_{19} and R_{20} independently is H, C_{3-6}cycloalkyl, C_{3-6}cycloalkyl-C_{1-4}alkyl, aryl-C_{1-4}alkyl or C_{1-4}alkyl optionally substituted on the terminal carbon atom by OH, ~~or R_{19} and R_{20} form together with the nitrogen atom to which they are bound a heterocyclic residue;~~

each of ~~R_2, R_3~~$_{[[,]]}$ $R_{5[[,]]}$ and $R_{6[[,]]}$ ~~R_{12}, R_{13}, R_{15} and R'_{15}~~, independently, is H, halogen, C_{1-4}alkyl, CF_3, OH, SH, NH_2, C_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{1-4}alkylthio, NHC_{1-4}alkyl, $N(C_{1-4}alkyl)_2$ or CN;

~~E is -N= and G is -CH=;~~ and

ring A is optionally substituted,
or a salt thereof.

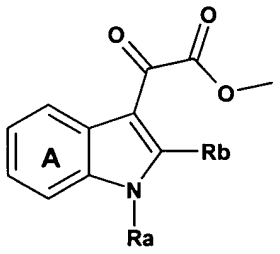
2. - 4. (cancelled)

5. (withdrawn) A compound according to claim 1 wherein R is a radical of formula (e) or (f).

6. (canceled)

7. (withdrawn-currently amended) A process for the preparation of a compound of formula I according to claim 1 which process comprises

a) reacting a compound of formula II



(II)

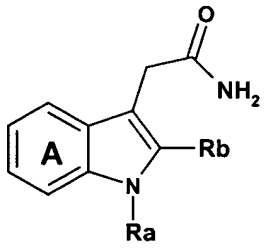
wherein R_a, R_b and ring A are as defined in claim 1,

with a compound of formula III

$$R - CH_2 - CO - NH_2 \qquad (III)$$

wherein R is as defined in claim 1,

b) reacting a compound of formula IV



(IV)

wherein R_a, R_b and ring A are as defined in claim 1,

with a compound of formula V

$$R - CO - CO - OCH_3 \qquad (V)$$

wherein R is as defined in claim 1; or

c) converting in a compound of formula I a substituent ~~R_4~~, $R_{4[[,]]}$ or $R_{7[[,]]}$ ~~R_8, R_{11} or R_{14}~~

into another substituent ~~R_4~~, $R_{4[[,]]}$ or $R_{7[[,]]}$ ~~R_8, R_{11} or R_{14}~~

and, where required, converting the resulting compound of formula I obtained in free form to a salt form or vice versa, as appropriate.

8. (canceled)

9. (original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of formula I according to claim 1 in free form or pharmaceutically acceptable salt form in association with a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or carrier therefor.

10. (canceled)

11. (withdrawn) A method for preventing or treating disorders or diseases mediated by T lymphocytes and/or PKC in a subject in need of such treatment, which method comprises administering to said subject an effective amount of a compound of formula I according to claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.